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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Attorney Docket No. 017399/0188

Matthias GRAF *et al.*

Serial No: 09/546,287

Group Art Unit: 1734

Filing Date: April 10, 2000

Examiner: Cheryl N. Hawkins

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE PRODUCTION
OF EXTRA-WIDE VENEERS

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 7, 2003, please amend the application as follows.

Please cancel claims 4-6 and 13-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace the following claims with the new versions shown below:

1. (Amended) Method for the production of endless laminated veneer lumber (LVL), comprising:

abutting an edge of an individual veneer to an edge of another individual veneer and joining the individual veneers with adhesive tape or stitching in the vicinity of the abutments to assemble at least one strand of joined veneers, wherein the abutted edges run parallel to the grain of the individual veneers;

cutting at least one of the strands of joined veneers in a direction parallel to the grain to produce individual extra-wide joined veneers; and

combining a plurality of individual extra-wide joined veneers by layering the individual extra-wide joined veneers to form endless LVL, wherein